Amendments to Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1 – 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (new) A portable tar heating and melting apparatus, comprising:

a cylindrical-shaped containment body, and the containment body being further characterized by a cylindrical bottom and a sidewall upwardly extending from the bottom;

the sidewall defining an upwardly opening cavity that is closed off by the cylindrical bottom;

an annular ledge disposed within the cavity adjacent the cylindrical bottom and which is mounted to the sidewall;

a perforated cooking platform for removable placement upon the annular ledge;

a tar cooking vessel having a chamber for receiving tar and other materials, the tar cooking vessel capable of removable insertion within the cavity of the containment body and upon the cooking platform;

the tar cooking vessel having an outside diameter that is less than the inside diameter of the sidewall of the containment body to allow for clearance between the cooking vessel and the sidewall of the containment body;

a gas burner disposed within the cavity of the containment body and spaced beneath the annular ledge and cooking platform and above the

cylindrical bottom for providing the heat energy that heats and melts the tar and other materials contained within the cooking vessel; and

whereupon after the tar and other materials have attained the desired consistency the cooking vessel can be manually removed from the containment body and carried to the application site.

12. The portable tar heating and melting apparatus of claim 11 further comprising a handle mounted to the containment body and extending upwardly therefrom for positioning and maneuvering the tar heating and melting apparatus.

13. The portable tar heating and melting apparatus of claim 12 wherein the sidewall of the containment body includes an annular upper end.

14. The portable tar heating and melting apparatus of claim 13 wherein the upper end includes a plurality of spaced-apart venting apertures that allow air and heat to pass therethrough during the heating and melting of the tar and other material within the cooking vessel.

15. The portable tar heating and melting apparatus of claim 14 wherein the cooking vessel includes a handle pivotally mounted thereon for permitting the manual insertion of the cooking vessel within the cavity of the containment body and upon the cooking platform and for removal therefrom after the tar and other material has attained the desired consistency through the heating and melting process.

16. A portable tar heating and cooking apparatus, comprising:

a cylindrical-shaped containment body with the containment body further characterized by having a cylindrical flat bottom and a sidewall upwardly extending from the bottom;

the sidewall defining an upwardly opening cavity that is closed off by the cylindrical bottom;

an annular ledge disposed within the cavity adjacent the cylindrical bottom and which is mounted to the sidewall;

a perforated cooking platform for removable placement upon the annular ledge;

a tar cooking vessel having a chamber for receiving therein tar and other material, the tar cooking vessel capable of removable insertion within the cavity of the containment body and upon the cooking platform;

the tar cooking vessel projecting above the sidewall when the tar cooking vessel is disposed within the containment body and the tar cooking vessel having an outside diameter that is less than the inside diameter of the sidewall of the containment body to provide clearance between the tar cooking vessel and the sidewall of the containment body;

a cooking vessel handle pivotally mounted to the cooking vessel to allow for the manual insertion of the tar cooking vessel within the cavity of the containment body and upon the cooking platform and for the removal of the tar cooking vessel therefrom;

a gas burner projecting within the cavity of the containment body and spaced beneath the annular ledge and the cooking platform and above the

cylindrical bottom for providing the heat energy that heats and melts the tar and other material within the tar cooking vessel to the desired consistency; and

whereupon after the tar and other material has attained the desired consistency the cooking vessel can be manually removed from the containment body and carried to the application site.

17. The portable tar heating and cooking apparatus of claim 16 further comprising a handle mounted to the containment body and extending upwardly therefrom for manual positioning and maneuvering of the tar heating and cooking apparatus.

18. The portable tar heating and cooking apparatus of claim 17 wherein the sidewall of the containment body includes an annular upper end.

19. The portable tar heating and cooking apparatus of claim 18 wherein the upper end of the sidewall includes a plurality of spaced-apart venting apertures that allow air and heat to pass therethrough during the process of heating and melting the tar and other material within the cooking vessel.